

Response and Preliminary Amendment  
U.S. Appln. No. 09/685,771

**REMARKS**

**Response to Election of Species Requirement**

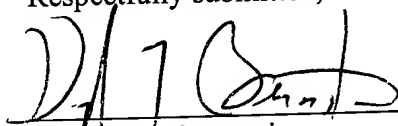
In response to the Office Action dated July 30, 2001 in which the Examiner has required an election of species, Applicants respond by electing, for prosecution in this application, species 1, figures 1-2. Claims 1-3, 8-12 and 17-18 are readable on the elected species. Claim 10 is generic to all species.

**Preliminary Amendment**

Claims 10-18 have been amended to correct grammatical errors and idiomatic English. The dependency of claims 11-18 have also been corrected.

Entry and consideration of this Amendment is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



Howard L. Bernstein  
Registration No. 25,665

SUGHRUE, MION, ZINN,  
MACPEAK & SEAS, PLLC  
2100 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20037-3213  
Telephone: (202) 293-7060  
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

Date: August 23, 2001

**APPENDIX**  
**VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE**

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

**The claims are amended as follows:**

10.(Amended) A substrate comprising:

a part of circuit which is provided on the surface of said substrate; and  
[a]surface layers which are kept to the ground potential and cover the surface of  
said substrate except said part of circuit and its peripheral.

11. (Amended) The substrate as claims in claim [1]10, wherein said surface layers  
include a top main surface and a bottom main surface.

12. (Amended) The substrate as claims in claim [2]11, further comprising:

a conductive element which electronically connects said top main surface and said  
bottom main surface.

13. (Amended) The substrate as claimed in claim [2]11, further comprising:

vias which electronically connects said top main surface and said bottom main  
surface.

14. (Amended) The substrate as claimed in claim [4]13, wherein said vias are provided  
on the side portion of said substrate.

15. (Amended) The substrate as claimed in claim [2]11, wherein said surface layers  
further [includes]include a side layer which electronically connects said top main surface and  
said bottom main surface.

16. (Amended) The substrate as claimed in claim [1]10, wherein said surface layers  
[includes]include six surface layers.

17. (Amended) The substrate as claimed in claim [1]10, further comprising a signal layer  
which is provided between said top main surface and said bottom main surface, and has a pattern  
which is connected to said part of circuit.

18. (Amended) The substrate as claimed in claim [1]10, wherein an interval  
between said part of circuit and said surface layer is defined to prevent said part of circuit  
[form]from short-circuiting.